



## Mike Receives Governor's Award for Excellence

On September 22 Mike Rogan of the Montana Aeronautics Division was presented with the Governor's Award for Excellence in Performance for 2004. All of you that know Mike and have worked with him in the past know that this award is very much deserved.

During his 20+ years of service with the division, Mike's enthusiasm has never waned. Mike has developed, coordinated and overseen the annual Montana aircraft mechanics refresher course into a very distinguished event contributing to the safety and education of aircraft mechanics statewide, all under very tight regulation of the FAA. Mike has also been the catalyst and resource for several rural communities in the development of their GPS instrument airport approaches. With these new GPS approaches, many Montana locations are now enjoying all the benefits of having their airport fully accessible to aircraft, despite weather conditions.

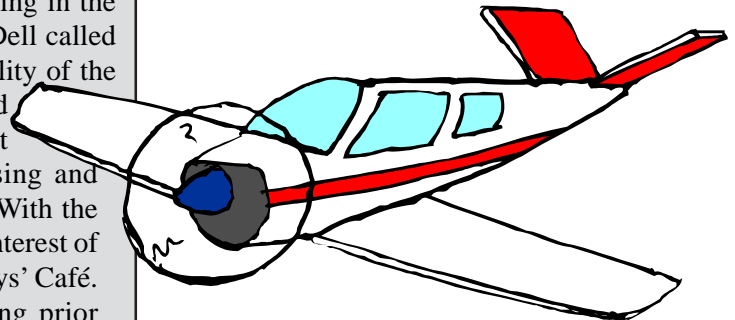
Mike is a great asset to the division and is always available to lend a helping hand no matter how menial the task. He takes on all projects with a smile and an awesome attitude. Congratulations Mike we are proud of you and your achievements.



*Mike received his award during a special ceremony at Carroll College. Pictured are Lt. Governor Karl Ohs, Mike Rogan and Governor Judy Martz.*

## Dell Airport

The Aeronautics Division has been contacted by Beaverhead County Sheriff Bill Briggs regarding an aviation safety situation that is developing in the county. Many of you are aware of a very popular restaurant in Dell called "Yesterday's Café". While the sheriff does not question the quality of the meals and the atmosphere provided by Yesterdays', he is concerned about the airplane traffic that land and takeoff from the adjacent county road and state highway 91. Aircraft traffic is increasing and numerous complaints from local residents have been received. With the exception of emergency situations, the sheriff has decided in the interest of safety to all, it is time to call a halt to aircraft landing at Yesterdays' Café. Montana Law allows aircraft to land on public roads providing prior permission from the local governing authority has been obtained and proper safety precautions are implemented. The good news is that there is a paved, public use airport ¼ mile West of Yesterdays' Café—an easy walk. Please be good stewards of the air, support the airport infrastructure that is available to you and continue to support "Yesterday's Cafe" by landing at the Dell airport.



# Administrator's Column

## Montana aviators mourn losses:

With great sadness, I offer condolences to Dave Hoerner and Noreen Richeson on the loss of their son Ryan who lost his life in an aircraft accident in Alaska last month. Ryan was a hunting, fishing and rafting guide in Alaska, Montana and Idaho and also flew with his father, Dave as a commercial pilot at Red Eagle Aviation of Kalispell. Dave is a great supporter of Montana aviation, and opens his facility each year during the mountain search pilot clinic. Dave has also assisted with many air search and rescues offering Red Eagle as a search base and has flown many hours as a search pilot. Our heartfelt sympathy to the entire Hoerner family.

## Montana also lost three others from the Flathead Valley:

Pilot Jim Long and USFS employees Ken Good and Davita Bryant lost their lives on September 27 in an aircraft accident. Jim was a member of the Flathead Civil Air Patrol, a board member of the Glacier Park International Airport Authority and on the board of directors and Montana Wing Leader for Angel Flight West, an organization that flies patients and families to medical help around the Northwest. Ken Good a communications technician for the forest service was looking forward to his well-deserved retirement this winter. Ken's passions were photography and trains. Davita Bryant worked as part of the Rocky Mountain Research Station for the National Forest Service. Davita was an all-around outdoorswoman who loved skiing and the backcountry, music and dancing. Sincere condolences to the entire extended families of Jim, Ken and Davita, including spouses Laura Long, Wanda Good and Brian Bryant. A special thanks to Ray Sanders, Montana Aeronautics Division search coordinator for his professional, tireless work during the search; Hank Galpin for opening up his hangar facility to accommodate the search base; Mike Daigle, Glacier Park International airport director and Jim Thomas, Edwards Jet Center for their graciousness and support and the many, many other volunteers and supporters that assisted during these unfortunate circumstances. Our thoughts and prayers

are with you and your families and also with survivors, Jodee Hogg of Billings and Matthew Ramige of Jackson, Wyoming and their families.

**U.S. Customs update:** Good news was received recently from Bob Gadsby, Supervisor, Airports and Intelligence Programs and Ross Lyle, Assistant Port Director for Trade Operations from US Customs in Great Falls. At Del Bonita, US customs services are once again available for aircraft entering the US. Please call US customs at (406) 336-2130 to arrange for clearance, as hours will be limited with advance notice required. The Aeronautics Division has reinstalled a new used Unicom at Del Bonita to replace the old tube type radio from the 1960s and it will be located in the main office at customs. Sweetgrass also has a unicom located at customs on the 122.8 frequency. When planning an international flight, plan ahead by providing advance notice of your intended arrival; FAA requires you file a flight plan for all international flights and that you obtain a transponder code; carry citizenship and identification documents; carry proper aircraft related documents (FAA aircraft registration, pilot license and medical certificate). *Know Before You Go* and the *Guide for Private Flyers* are available and recommended for pilots in planning. These publications can be obtained by contacting the Customs and Border Protection office at (406) 453-0861 or its web site: [www.cpb.gov](http://www.cpb.gov). A very comprehensive checklist for customs clearing by private aircraft was included in the May 2003 *Montana and the Sky* newsletter. Thanks to Bob and Ross for their support and reinstating this important service at Del Bonita.



### *Montana and the Sky*

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David A. Galt, Director

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# Calendar

**October 9, 2004** – Hot Springs fly-in. For further information phone Don Theeler at (406) 741-5040.

**October 9 & 10, 2004** – Wings Weekend & Helicopter/Aircraft Safety Symposium. Northern Skies Aviation, starts at 8:00 a.m. each day. For further information phone Steve Jones at (800) 457-9917, ext. 57 or Northern Skies Aviation at (406) 628-2219.

**October 23, 2004** – Pinch Hitter Course; Northern Skies Aviation, Laurel. Ground School: 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.; Flight Sessions: 1:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. For further information phone Northern Skies at (406) 628-2219.

**January 21-23, 2005** – Surratt Memorial Winter Survival Clinic. For further information phone (406) 444-2506.

**February 5 & 6, 2005** – Flight Instructor Refresher Clinic. For further information phone (406) 444-2506.

**March 3-5, 2005** – Montana Aviation Conference, Butte. For further information phone (406) 444-2506.

## Mountain Emergency Strips in Peril

The Canadian Owners and Pilots Association (COPA) is calling on pilots to help prevent the Canadian government from plowing up a couple of mountain airstrips that provide critical emergency diversion points for aircraft crossing the Rockies. A 60-day public comment period on a comprehensive Environmental Assessment of the grass strips at Banff and Jasper, Alberta, began on September 27. COPA President Kevin Psutka is urging pilots (not just Canadians, anyone can write in) to email their support ([comments-commentaires@telus.net](mailto:comments-commentaires@telus.net)) to retain the strips, which are on two of the three major mountain-pass routes commonly used by light aircraft.



## Contest Winner Excels in Oshkosh!

Be the Pilot of an Experimental Aircraft! Perform Aerobatic Maneuvers! These are two of many exciting activities that I was able to do while attending the 2004 EAA Air Academy at Oshkosh, Wisconsin this past July. I was privileged with being the 1<sup>st</sup> place winner of the 2004 Montana State Aviation Awareness Art Contest and as part of my prize received the transportation and tuition to the Air Academy.

Each day was packed with activities including a workshop, during which we built and assembled a wing section that included the tip and aileron; a classroom where we learned the principles of flight and what and how exterior forces affects flight, and about the 6 main instruments of the airplane and the basic parts of the airplane; as well as, several free times to visit the museum, play Ultimate Frisbee or a variety of other sports, watch movies, or simply hang out with other Air Academy attendees. We also helped out at the annual Young Eagles Banquet and in doing so we met many interesting people, such as Dick Hansen who owned the P-40 that he was flying in the Air Show at AirVenture, as well as, a chance to be face to face with Harrison Ford. As I mentioned above, we flew an experimental aircraft known as the RV-6A where we were encouraged to take the controls as one of the CFIs/counselors instructed us on the proper way to pilot the aircraft through such aerobatic maneuvers as Lazy Eights (we pulled several positive and negative Gs). One of the main focuses of the Air Academy was to challenge each attendee both physically and mentally. Finally on the fourth to last day of the Air Academy, all of the attendees were given a full week's pass to AirVenture and told that for the remainder of the camp our days would be spent participating in all that was AirVenture, and believe me, it was too much to take in within those four days.

To be honest, I was a little hesitant about attending the Air Academy when I first began reading about it. I am not usually one to attend camps and am a very shy person. However, soon after arriving at the camp, more so as the days progressed and at

present, I feel that this was one of the most rewarding, not to mention exciting, experiences that I have ever had. I met many kind, skillful, and interesting people including the instructors, the helpers, the counselors, fellow attendees, and visitors to AirVenture. I learned a great deal about a subject I don't have at school yet love, aviation, and I did things that I probably wouldn't have done or had a chance to do if I had not attended the Air Academy. Thank you so much Jeanne MacPherson, Debbie Alke, and everyone else who made this unforgettable experience possible for me.

*Crystal Michelle Dorne*



*Pictured are Governor Judy Martz, Crystal Dorne, Debbie Alke, Administrator & Dave Galt, DOT Director. Thank you to all the pilots that generously donate each year during the conference to help send our winner to Oshkosh, as you can see from Crystal's letter its money well spent.*



# MPA Fall Fly-In



*This year's Montana Pilots Association fall fly-in was held at Wokal Field in Glasgow September 3 & 4. Pictured are Vic & Eva Wokal; the airport was named for Vic Wokal in appreciation for his hard work and dedication to aviation - one of the reasons for the airports success today.*



*Pictured are Jeanne Ferguson, Townsend; Chuck Manning, Kalispell, MPA President; and Bria & Jamie Hanson, Glasgow. Friday evening a kick-off barbeque was held in the Hanson's hangar.*



*On Saturday Phil Petrik, Sidney put on an awesome air show in his T-28. Pictured are (l) Larry French, Glasgow and Phil. Attendees also participated in flour bombings and spot landings and afterwards checked out the antique and classic cars that were on display.*



*Saturday evening an awards dinner was held at Sam's Club in Glasgow. Steve Jones, Federal Aviation Administration, Helena was on hand to present brothers Mitch & Gene Etchart of Glasgow each with the Wright Brothers Master Pilot Award. Pictured (l-r) are Gene Etchart, Steve Jones & Mitch Etchart. Following the dinner a street dance was held.*



*Sunday morning participants flew to Fort Peck for breakfast where the local Para Plane Aviators were winding down their 3-day fly-in. After breakfast award and prize drawings were held followed by training programs before everyone headed home. Pictured are (l-r) Lanny Hanson, Manager, Fort Peck Airport; and Glen & Stephanie Meier of Glasgow. Glen is one of the people who put the fly-in together. Special thanks to Mike Ferguson for providing me with the pictures of this event - as hard as he tries he'll never be able to "retire" from Montana Aeronautics. Thanks Mike!!*



# Mountain Search Pilot Clinic

The 26<sup>th</sup> annual Mountain Search Pilot Clinic was held in Kalispell, September 17, 18 and 19. One of the pilot's attending gave this review; "the Mountain Search Pilot Clinic has now reached the next level of excellence in aviation professionalism, flying safety, pilot training and recurrence."

Friday evening's presentation kicked off with Steve Jones of the Helena Flight Standards Office awarding the Master Pilot award to Bill Hewitt of Kalispell. Skip Stoffel and Paul Green from *Emergency Response International* gave the evening program, "how to find the clues that lead to finding the missing aircraft."

Saturday evening, Sparky Imeson, the mountain flying Guru and the author of *Mountain Flying Bible* and *Taildragger Tactics*, presented a most informative program on mountain flying safety, procedures, good-operating practices, various search techniques, and special considerations to weather and mountain flying.

The Mountain search clinic flight Instructors are Bill Werner, Wendy Bye, Sparky Imeson, and Jeanne MacPherson and new to the lineup this year are Mike Campbell of Dutton and Art Dykstra of Missoula.

The Emergency Locator Instructors are ELT sleuths, Ray Sanders, Peter Graf and Hugh Wilkins.

Thank you to the 2004 MSPC Extraordinaire Instructors and Presenters and thank you to the behind the scene worker bees, Shirley Bird, Jim Greil and Mike Rogan who's efforts and work make this a first class event.



*On Friday evening Steve Jones, FAA presented the Master Pilot Award to Bill Hewitt of Kalispell for his involvement as a pilot for over 50 years. Congratulations Bill!*



*Joe Younkin, Glasgow; Marvin Blodgett, Great Falls and Rod Bitney of Kalispell take a little hike at Spotted Bear while waiting for their flight back to Kalispell.*



*Skip Stoffel, Survival instructor conducts his training in an outdoor setting so participants are able to receive valuable hands on instruction.*

*ELT participants have classroom instruction and then go out and test their skills finding an actual ELT hidden by instructors, Ray Sanders, Peter Graf & Hugh Wilkins.*





# Baucus, Enzi Introduce Bill to Boost Two-Year Colleges

Teaming with Wyoming Senator Mike Enzi, Montana Senator Max Baucus introduced legislation aimed at boosting community and technology colleges and helping students find work in good-paying jobs when they graduate.

The Enzi-Baucus bill will, among other things, establish grant programs that higher education institutions, businesses and local workforce agencies can apply for to fill local job-skills needs in those communities.

“This bill will help us define what job skills are most needed in our communities, and then allow our community colleges and colleges of technology to train students to fill those needs,” Baucus said. “This is about putting our businesses in touch with our schools and helping our schools produce a highly trained, skilled workforce. That’s key to economic development and jobs in our state.”

Baucus noted that in Montana, many colleges of technology have job placement rates as high as 100 percent, and he noted the state’s economy gets a boost from the skilled workers these institutions produce. He said each of Montana’s seven tribal colleges, five technical schools, and three community colleges would benefit and be eligible to participate in the new program the bill establishes. All told, these schools provide a higher education to more than 10,000 Montana students each year.

“My top priority is creating more good-paying jobs and boosting our state’s economy,” Baucus said. “This higher education bill will help reach that goal by making it easier for more students to enroll in higher education and become more successful after they graduate. As the workforce continues to get more and more competitive, you can count on me to work together with members of Congress to ensure that more Montanans who wish to pursue higher education will be successful afterwards. After all, education is the key to a stronger economy.”

In a letter to their Senate colleagues, Enzi and Baucus said that providing additional job-skill training is pivotal to keeping good-paying jobs from moving offshore.

“As globalization creates a more interdependent and thus competitive world, the need for highly skilled workers has never been greater,” Enzi and Baucus wrote. “The Department of Labor estimates that over 80 percent of new jobs created in the next ten years will require some level of postsecondary education. To prevent these high wage jobs from moving offshore, additional training is essential.”

Baucus said now he will continue to work together with members of Congress and Montana’s colleges to gain support for the measure and advance it. At Helena, the UofM College of Technology airframe & powerplant program stands to be a huge winner with this funding. The program turns out A&P mechanics and is the only course of it’s kind in Montana.



*Senator Baucus explained his new legislation at the UofM Helena College of Technology on September 16.*

## Great Falls Youth Take to the Skies!



*Ranita Bahlmann the Education Director of the Boy's and Girl's Club of Great Falls arranged an aviation day for the students on August 17th at the Great Falls Airport. Holman Aviation hosted the group and EAA pilots, Tuck Barrett and Dan Prill, along with Montana Aeronautics Pilots, Mike Rogan and Jeanne MacPherson gave the students Young Eagles Flights.*

# Sport Pilot & Light Sport Aircraft Final Rule Milestones for Implementation

## **September 1, 2004 – Effective Date of Rule**

- An FAA certificated pilot can exercise sport pilot privileges while operating an FAA certificated aircraft that meets the definition of a light-sport aircraft.

## **October 1, 2004**

- Unregistered and uncertificated transitioning ultralight-like aircraft can apply for an “N” Number (Aircraft Registration). Application forms will be made available on the AFS-610 website on that date.

## **October 2004**

- Practical Test Standards and Knowledge Tests Available to the Public
- Guidelines for Repairman Training Available to the Public
- DPE and DAR Applications will be accepted by FAA

## **November 2004**

- First FAA DAR Training Course

## **January 2005**

- FAA Ready to Issue:
  - First Sport Pilot Certificate
  - First Sport Pilot CFI Certificate
  - First Private Pilot WSC and PPC ratings
  - Accept applications for additional category and class privileges
  - First ELSA Certificate
  - First SLSA Certificate
  - First Light-sport Repairman Certificate
- First FAA DPE Training Course

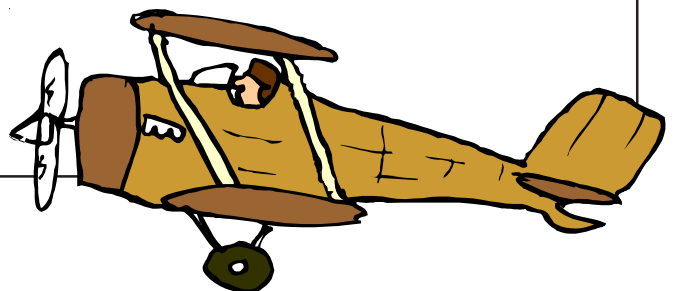
## **February 2005 and beyond**

- DAR and DPE courses as needed
- Education focusing on CFI roles and responsibilities

For more information on the final rule go to the Sport Pilot Website: [www.faa.gov/avr/afs/sportpilot](http://www.faa.gov/avr/afs/sportpilot). This site addresses the following areas (Links along the sidebar): Overview of Final Rule; FAQ's; Medical FAQ's; Final Rule and NPRM; Guidance and Policy Links; Industry Websites Links.

The Light-sport Aviation Branch has their own website. For information on implementation go to [www.afs600.faa.gov/](http://www.afs600.faa.gov/). This site includes FAA forms, policy, advisory circulars. The mailing address for the Light Sport Aviation Branch (AFS-610) is: PO Box 25082, Oklahoma City, OK 73125 or phone (405) 954-6400. Light Sport Aviation Branch will answer questions via email at [afs610-comments@faa.gov](mailto:afs610-comments@faa.gov).

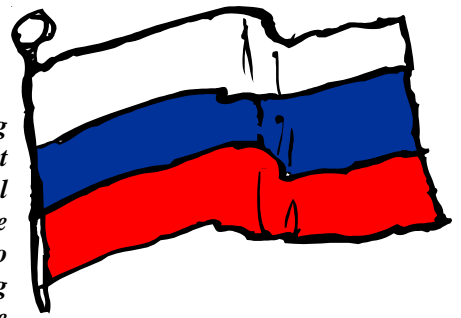
For questions on aircraft certification call, fax, or send an email to: phone: (816) 329-2464; fax (816) 329-4090; email: [9-ACE-AVR-SPORTPILOT-QUESTIONS@faa.gov](mailto:9-ACE-AVR-SPORTPILOT-QUESTIONS@faa.gov).



# Club Podvig Celebrates 10 Years



*For the 10<sup>th</sup> year running Loren Smith & Jane Mart hosted Club Podvig's annual visit to Montana. The Russian group came to Helena for their Young Eagle Rides with Jeanne MacPherson and as always this day was a big hit. On September 2<sup>nd</sup> a dinner was held in Great Falls at the KOA Campground with traditional Russian cuisine served to all. The cadets then entertained the crowd with their fun skits and versatile talent. To cap off the evening Loren Smith treated everyone to an amazing display of fireworks.*



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